

News Release

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT

OF

TRANSPORTATION

October 11, 2002

For further details contact: Public Affairs Office (805) 549-3138 or (805) 549-3237 http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/

District 5 50 Higuera Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

STAGES 5 AND 6 OF HIGHWAY 166 REHAB NOW UNDERWAY

SANTA MARIA – Construction has started this week on the Stages 5 and 6 of the Main Street (Highway 166) Pavement Rehabilitation Project between Oakley Avenue and Depot Street. The work involved in these two stages is expected to last five weeks and be completed by mid-November 2002.

During these stages, through traffic on Main Street will be restricted to one lane in each direction between Oakley Avenue and Depot Street with construction starting with the outside (curbside) lanes closed first. Caltrans has also closed Benwiley Avenue, Railroad Avenue, and Depot Street at Main Street. No left or rights turns onto or from Main Street will be permitted at these intersections. Through traffic on these local streets can use the following alternate routes:

Benwiley Avenue Detours: Northbound and southbound through traffic on Benwiley Avenue is advised to use Western Avenue to access Main Street or to continue north or south.

Railroad Avenue Detour: Northbound through traffic on Railroad Avenue is advised to use Western Avenue or Pine Street to access Main Street or to continue north.

Depot Street Detour: Northbound and southbound through traffic on Depot Street is advised to use Pine Street to access Main Street or to continue north or south.

All businesses in the area will remain open and access to all driveways will be accommodated during regular business hours. Caltrans is using signs printed in both English and Spanish to identify the business entrances.

The Main Street (Highway 166) Pavement Rehabilitation Project will involve the replacement of about 18-30 inches of roadbed and asphalt over the 3.3-mile segment of Main Street from Kathleen Court to Bradley Road. The project will also add 65 wheelchair sidewalk ramps, replace over 22,000 feet of curb and gutters, and install new traffic light poles. The project will be constructed in 18 stages (each stage is approximately two city blocks in length) in order to minimize impacts upon local businesses and is expected to be completed by the Fall of 2003.

For updates on the Main Street (Highway 166) Pavement Rehabilitation Project, the public can call 1-888-SB-ROADS (888-727-6237). For traffic updates on other Caltrans projects in Santa Barbara County, the public can call the Caltrans District 5 toll free number at 1-805-568-0858 or can visit the Caltrans District 5 website at www.dot.ca.gov/dist05/maint/road/upsb.htm